tournure, and the minister of marine (as I am told at his *bureau)* has been reprimanded about it, and will meddle no morej so that all chance of my being allowed to see Sir Sidney is at an end.

Lord M.'s instructions from Lord Grenville were so positive that he could not put it off any longer; it is ill-managed. We have an example in General O'Hara that the only way to deal with men who have overleaped the bounds of law and right is moderation, and patient watching for the proper moment. Things were going on so well! Probably a little further delay would have completed the business. I see it *en noir.*

This affair may also prove of evil consequence to the Choiseuls, taken at Calais, and already tried, but their judges declared incompetent by the Directory, The object of my mission will also be more difficult to accomplish, and I foresee a great deal of bad blood and haggling. I have the comfort to say it is no fault of mine, for I kept back the evil hour a fortnight. The Directory are very angry at Sir Sidney Smith's release being

so much insisted upon, and the *cartel* stopped on that account. They seem to wish that we should think they consider him as an incendiary.

Cussy, the *6migr6,* was guillotined yesterday.